Sustainable Packaging Guideline

At Elanco, we believe healthier animals are part of the solution to some of the world’s most significant challenges and that “making life better for animals, makes life better.” Sustainable packaging systems contribute to achieving emissions and waste reduction goals and helping minimize global climate change.

The goal of Elanco's various sustainable packaging initiatives is to reduce the impact of packaging on the environment wherever appropriate and to promote sustainable development.

Objectives & Scope

The purpose of the Sustainable Packaging Guideline is to outline the key elements of Elanco’s packaging program and describe where and how sustainability considerations influence engineering, design and sourcing decisions related to product packaging. While these (e.g., content, recyclability, reusability, etc.) are important elements, it is central to keep in perspective packaging design within our industry is highly regulated and must consider many factors. Elanco seeks to balance the requirements of product and internal packaging protection, transport, storage, marketability, cost and other considerations in addition to the elements that comprise sustainability.

This guideline is not for the purpose of dictating or mandating a particular packaging design, nor does it direct or authorize modification to existing packaging. Rather, its intent is to inform packaging designers and engineers as to the sustainability implications of their design decisions through assessment and design activities, and to imbue sustainability principles throughout those processes.

Vision: General Sustainability Packaging Principles

Sustainability in the packaging context refers to raw material use and recyclability through the lifecycle of the packaging. Material selection in packaging should be that which has the lowest possible environmental impact while protecting the product and providing all necessary information to Elanco’s clients, while at the same time lending itself to reuse, recyclability or biodegradability. Each product, of course, is unique and may present differing opportunities or options to meet the aspirations of this guideline. It is important to evaluate and consider the spectrum of business needs and implications during packaging development.
Across our entire packaging portfolio, Elanco is assessing ways to cut down the volume of materials used – replacing non-renewable resources with meaningful renewable ones and working towards streamlining our packaging design to meet “Designed for Recycling” best practices.

For our innovation pipeline, Elanco works to ensure close collaboration between our Research & Development, Commercial, Manufacturing & Quality organizations, universities, suppliers and other external partners and experts to re-think and optimize products and processes.

Our main principles are the following:

We aim to minimize packaging waste in our worldwide supply chain, eliminating and reducing packaging where not needed. That means packaging volume and weight should reflect the minimum adequate amount to maintain product and transportation protection.

Different types of packaging configurations will have an impact on the various aspects of the sustainability footprint. Using, for instance, a high-barrier packaging material can significantly increase shelf life and minimize the amount of waste along the whole supply chain, but potentially impacts its recyclability. Similarly, using a more sustainable material could increase the amount of waste.

Elanco’s Sustainable Packaging Steering Team is committed to creating tangible and time-bound goals regarding our sustainable packaging initiatives and will report regularly on progress in documents such as our annual Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) disclosures.

Packaging Design & Sustainability

Product protection refers to measures taken to ensure a product is safe, secure, and functional throughout its life cycle. The protective function of packaging essentially involves protecting the contents from the environment, and vice versa.

Packaging plays a significant role in safely transporting Elanco products to clients and to protect products during storage and handling. It is critical to ensure products are properly protected during transportation processes to prevent damage or contamination, which could result in product losses, customer dissatisfaction, or even safety risks.

Elanco’s container closure systems and materials are governed by strict pharmaceutical and quality guidelines to ensure the safety, quality, and efficacy of our pharmaceutical products. Corresponding corporate policies also guide Elanco’s sustainable packaging initiative. As an example, Elanco’s global HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) policy references the selection of packaging material.
The type of packaging specified depends on the specific product, its properties and intended storage and transportation conditions. For example, some polymers used in packaging can release chemicals over time that may degrade the product, while others may not provide sufficient protection from external factors (e.g., moisture and light). In addition to selecting the right packaging materials, it is important to consider factors such as packaging design, sealing, filling processes and labeling to ensure the product remains protected throughout its shelf life.

Packaging Definitions:

- **Primary packaging** is in contact with the drug product and must protect it over the entire shelf-life.
- **Secondary packaging** is the exterior packaging of the primary packaging that groups packages and further protects or labels the product.
- **Tertiary packaging** is used for bulk handling, storage, and distribution.

An example of these packaging levels in the pharmaceutical industry is a blister (primary packaging) placed into a folding box (secondary packaging), then packed into a shipping carton (tertiary packaging).

Elanco is committed to optimizing the sustainability of its primary, secondary and tertiary packaging to minimize the environmental impact.

**Accountability and Oversight**

This guideline was reviewed by the Elanco Sustainable Packaging Steering Team, a cross-functional body comprised of senior representatives from across our business – including manufacturing and quality, commercial, regulatory, procurement, supply chain, ESG and sustainability, government affairs and other functions.

Approved August 2023:

- Executive Director – Global Head of ESG & Sustainability
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